

By-Cycle

Bicycle News from the
Maricopa County Department of Transportation



May 2000

Volume 1:5

Fewer Bicycle Crashes

In 1998, there were 761 bicycling fatalities and 53,000 bicycling injuries resulting from traffic crashes in the United States. Overall, bicyclists accounted for 2 percent of all traffic fatalities as well as 2 percent of all crash-related injuries.

In 1994, the *National Bicycling and Walking Study* sponsored by the U.S. Department of Transportation designed an action plan to meet two goals:

- 1) Double the number of trips made by walking and bicycling, and
- 2) Reduce the number of pedestrians and bicyclists killed or injured by 10 percent.

Comparing crash statistics from 1995, the first year after the completion of this report, to those from 1998, there was a reduction in bicyclist injuries and fatalities of 13 percent, surpassing the goal of 10 percent established in the *National Bicycling and Walking Study*. The number of bicyclists killed decreased by 8.6 percent during this time period, while the number of bicyclists injured decreased by 13.1 percent.

This information and much more is available at the Pedestrian and Bicycle Information Center. www.bicyclinginfo.org



Meetings

May 2000

Public Meeting Schedule

The public meeting schedule is subject to change. Please call to confirm dates and times. For on-line information go to: www.maricopa.gov/

5.3.2000

Power Road/ Guadalupe to Baseline

Location: Highland Jr. High School
Media Center
6915 E. Guadalupe
Mesa, Az
Contact: Narymen Zedah, 602-506-8623
Time: 5 p.m. – 7 p.m.

5.6.2000

Bartlett Lake Road/ Cave Creek to Horseshoe Dam

Location: Bartlett Lake Marina
Contact: Mike Marietti, 602-506-4171
Time: 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

5.9.2000

MCDOT Bicycle Advisory Committee

Location: MCDOT
2901 W. Durango
Phoenix, AZ
Contact: Reed Kempton, 602-506-1630
Time: 2:30 p.m. – 4 p.m.

5.9.2000

Tuthill/Jackrabbit Trail Corridor Study Germann Rd to Indian School Rd

Location: Buckeye Community Center
201 Centre
Buckeye, AZ
Contact: Leo Trinidad, 602-506-2826
Time: 5 p.m. – 7 p.m.



Local bicycle advocates preparing for a meeting with transportation officials.

Vision 21 Interim Report

The Interim Report from the Governor's Transportation Vision 21 Task Force is available on line on the ADOT web site www.dot.state.az.us/vision21.

If this plan is adopted, it will have a major influence on all transportation, including bicycling, for many years to come.

Walking and Bicycling into the 21st Century

“Creating an Off-Street Path System in an Urban Environment.”

The two-day conference brought together about 85 planners, engineers, landscape architects, advocates, other interested parties to discuss issues related to bicycle lanes and shared-use paths. The participants represented national, state, and local agencies, consultants, and private organizations from around Arizona.

Day one focused on design and construction of urban trails, who uses them, and where they are built. Day 2 spent more time on how to link trails together and integrate them with the on-street bicycle network.

May 2000

Public Meeting Schedule Continued

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5.10.2000

Estrella Roadway/ Overpasses at Grand, Clearview, Mountainview

Location: Sonoran Plaza Ballroom
19753 N. Remington Dr.
Surprise, AZ
Contact: Ray Smith, 602-506-2901
Time: 1 p.m. – 3 p.m.

5.11.2000

SR74 Access Corridor Study

Location: Ben Avery Shooting Range
4044 W. Black Canyon Blvd.
North of Carefree Hwy, ½ mile west of I-17
Contact: Roger Herzog, 602-506-6471
Time: 5 p.m. – 7 p.m.

5.23.2000

Power Road Access Control and Corridor Improvement Study

Location: Highland High School
4301 E. Guadalupe Rd.
Mesa, AZ
Contact: Chris Plumb, 602-506-4176
Time: 5 p.m. – 7 p.m.

5.24.2000

Power Road Access Control and Corridor Improvement Study

Location: Queen Creek Elementary School
23636 S. 204th St.
Queen Creek, AZ
Contact: Chris Plumb, 602-506-4176
Time: 5 p.m. – 7 p.m.



GOVSpeak

One day not too long ago, in a land not so far away, my spouse asked how my day had gone. I replied that the BOR still had not signed the IGA on the CAP and I was trying to . . .

“What? I have no idea what you just said.” As I started to repeat my comment, thinking she had something in her ears, she clarified her works. “Oh no! My worst fears have come true. You have become a bureaucrat. Let me take your temperature.”

What I refer to as GOVSpeak, referring to anything by the first letter in all of its words, gives us a verbal shorthand to simplify our speech and enables us to type without using so many letters. Usually, we all know what the initials mean. Occasionally, however, our language can be misunderstood and lead to chaos and confusion. Let me explain.

DOT stands for Department of Transportation, not Dirty Old Transients. MAG is the Maricopa Association of Governments, not a really bright flashlight or a set of wheels. An MPO is a Metropolitan Planning Organization, not a Mental Program Orderly. IT stands for Intelligent Transportation. Of course, the only truly intelligent form of transportation is the bicycle. But I digress.

Let me be perfectly clear. If I said that MCDOT put the DCR in the CIP after the IGA from ADOT using the AASHTO guidelines letting SRP and PIR join the PGA before the IRS merged with the NBA, you would know exactly what I meant. Right!

Roadway **E**fficiency **E**xpert **D**esigner

MCDOT

Bicycle Web Page

www.mcdot.maricopa.gov/Bicycle/index.htm

MCDOT

Bike to Work Day

Tom Buick, Tim Oliver, Kelly McMullen, Susan Conklu, Debbi Betzold, Charlene McDonald, and Reed Kempton left their cars at home and joined other cyclists around the Valley participating in the annual Bike to Work Day. The seven combined for a total of 207 miles. Charlene rode her daily route into the downtown and then took the shuttle to MCDOT. Debbi rode in from Scottsdale. Tom and Susan pedaled from Tempe, Tim and Kelly came in on a tandem from Chandler, and Reed started in Mesa. The East Valley riders met at Kiwanis Park in Tempe and rode most of the way as a group.

The event takes place every year to demonstrate the viability of using the bicycle as an alternative mode of transportation. There are about 45,000 cyclists bicycling to work every day in Maricopa County. If these commuters were in their cars, they would add another 10,000 pounds of pollutants daily to the Valley air.

On your left!

April was a conference month for me. It started with the Arizona Transit Association at Rio Rico in southern Arizona and ended with the Bicycling conference in Tempe. The two modes of transportation seem to operate in different worlds with little common ground. They both, however, are alternatives to the automobile. I rode a bus while at the transit conference, and I bicycled to the bicycling conference. I also bicycled to work on Bike-To-Work day. Now I need to make the effort to ride every day. See you on the road.

If you have a question about bicycling in Maricopa County, send a message to reedkempton@mail.maricopa.gov.

Reed